(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) the steps, if any, taken for resolving the problem; and

(g) whether Government propose to take stringent action against the erring officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI TAP AN SIKDAR): (a) No, Sir. The telephone subscribers of Mainpuri do not have to face difficulties in depositing their telephone bills. However, if it so happenes that most subscribers decide to pay their bills on the same day (usually the "pay-by-date"), some rush would be inevitable.

(b) No, Sir. In Mainpuri the bills can be deposited at OCB telephone exchange cash counter, Departmental Telegraph Office, Head Post Office and city Post Office.

(c) to (e) Provision to deposit telephone bills at selected Head/ Sub Post Offices already exists.

(f) In order to further improve the situation, the Department of Posts has recently decided to allow collection of telephone bills through certain Branch Post Offices also. These are to be selected by the Postal Circles in consultation with BSNL's Telecom Circles.

(g) No action is required in view of the replies given above.

Connecting villages with wireless telephones

†2648. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering any plan for connecting villages with wireless telephones during the current financial year;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details of the villages which are being connected with this facility, State-wise, District-wise; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) The various operators, licensed to provide telecommunications services by the Government, are free to deploy any technology including Wireless telephones for connecting villages depending upon the geographical location as well as techno economic considerations as per their Licence conditions.

Vulgar chat boxes and sites

†2649. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards a news-item captioned "Cyber Sex Ki Mahammari Mein Badal Rahi Hai Computer Kranti" Published in Rashtriya Sahara dated 30th January, 2002 which says that use of sensual and vulgar chat boxes and sites is rapidly increasing in India as a result of which disorder is increasing in the Indian society; and

(b) if so, the steps taken / proposed to be taken by Government to have a check on vulgar chat boxes and websites?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000 has a provision to make carriage of obscene contents through networks a punishable offence. Internet Service Providers (ISPs) are required to ensure as per licence agreement that their networks do not carry obscene

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.